Integrated Resource Plan

TVA's Environmental & Energy Future

Draft | September 2010

Tennessee Valley Authority

Foreword

The Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA), a federal agency and the largest public power provider in the United States, has prepared this draft Integrated Resource Plan (IRP), titled *TVA's Environmental and Energy Future*, and is making it available to the public for review and comment. This IRP supports TVA's 2008 Environmental Policy as well as the 2007 Strategic Plan and the mission Congress established for TVA in the TVA Act.

As a federal agency, TVA is subject to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and is required to consider the potential environmental impacts of its proposed actions. In addition to this draft IRP, TVA has prepared a draft environmental impact statement (EIS).

This IRP establishes a strategic direction and provides TVA with the flexibility to make future decisions in a changing regulatory and economic environment. A broad spectrum of options is evaluated for meeting the TVA system demand over the next 20 years in an efficient, reliable, and environmentally sound manner. The draft IRP considers future power needs and economic conditions as well as other uncertainties, such as future environmental legislation and future commodity prices that will affect the choices TVA makes in meeting the demand on its system.

This IRP is an important evaluation for TVA, its customers and residents living within the Valley region. The IRP reflects TVA's objectives of providing competitive rates to its customers, delivering reliable power and a commitment to environmental stewardship within the Tennessee Valley region. The IRP and EIS not only evaluate the means by which TVA will supply reliable power over the next 20-year period, they also evaluate the impacts of TVA's actions on the economy and environment of the Tennessee Valley region.

The NEPA process provides a structured means of obtaining public input into decision-making. A 45-day public comment period will begin with the publication of the Notice of Availability in the Federal Register of the draft IRP and EIS. During this time, TVA will hold public meetings and solicit public comment. All substantive comments on the IRP and EIS will be addressed.

The breadth of analysis that will be presented in the draft IRP is much broader than will be presented in the final IRP. Following review of public comments, data will be refreshed and additional analyses will be completed. This will allow TVA to present the most up-to-date and accurate information on future power needs and resource options in the final IRP and EIS, which are scheduled for release in spring 2011. In addition, building on the demonstrated value of this IRP's approach, it is anticipated that TVA will begin the next IRP effort by 2015.

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